SUBJECT No. 198.

Eligibility for Taluk Board membership.

Mr. Ramachendra Rao, Bangalore District Board.

*Summary of discussion.*—The qualification for Taluk Board membership under the Local Board Regulation is the payment of an assessment of Rs. 50 and upwards in one of the four groups of the taluk. In accordance with this, if a person happens to pay less than Rs. 50 in each of the groups taken individually, though paying about Rs. 200 to the whole taluk, he is precluded from being a member of the Taluk Board. Since a person paying nearly Rs. 200 in several parts of the taluk is likely to have better knowledge of the taluk than one paying Rs. 50 in one group alone, the above rule may be modified and all persons paying Rs. 50 and upwards of assessment in the taluk as a whole may be made eligible.

*Reply of Government.*—Will be considered.

SUBJECT No. 199.

Local cess on Excise, Forest and other minor sales.

Messrs. T. Ramachandra Rao and K. Puttappa, Bangalore District Board; K. Krishnamurti Rao, Magadi taluk; Baji Rao Sindhe, Kankanhalli taluk; and D. S. Hanumantha Rao, Devanhalli taluk.

*Summary of discussion.*—The increase of Local Fund by transferring the amount of local cess now collected on Excise and Forest revenues to the District Fund will help to carry out important works which are not attended to at present for want of funds.

*Reply of Government.*—The cess referred to cannot be assigned to the District Fund.

SUBJECT No. 200.

Proposed increase of the local cess.

(1) Messrs. A. Narasimha Iyengar, Sagar taluk; T. Ramachandra Rao and K. Puttappa, Bangalore District Board; K. Krishnamurti Rao, Magadi taluk; Baji Rao Sindhe, Kankanhalli taluk; D.S. Hanumantha Rao, Devanhalli taluk.

*Summary of discussion.*—(1) The District Boards and other public bodies have expressed their opinion on the proposal to raise the local cess now levied on land revenue and other items from one to two annas. Considering the present impoverished condition of the agriculturists and the increase of assessment in the revision settlement of taluks now in progress, it is prayed that the proposal of raising the local cess now under consideration may be abandoned.

(2) Messrs. C. Vamana Rao, and Subba Rao, Nagar taluk.

(2) The general condition of the ryot class in this country is poor and the country has not advanced in general prosperity like other countries. Very little advance has been made in the matters of trade, education, improved agriculture and industries. Instead of raising the local cess or levying an income tax as proposed, it is desirable to reduce certain items of expenditure and utilize the savings to meet the expenditure required for the advancement of the country.

Mr. Hanumantha Rao, Devanhalli taluk.

(3) Amildars need not be required to attend District Board meetings. Some expenditure to the District Board will thereby be saved.

*Reply of Government.*—Noted.

SUBJECT No. 201.

Abolition of octroi duty and the increase of mohatarfa.

Messrs Puttegowda, Channapatna taluk; and C. R. Nanjundayya, Channapatna municipality.

*Summary of discussion.*—The octroi collection is very poor at present owing to the inefficiency of the existing establishment to keep proper supervision over the import of goods. As the local merchants stock goods outside the municipal limits and sell them in the weekly *santes* of the